

5. (twice amended) A video printer according to claim 1, wherein said video camera operation system includes memory operation means for storing video data indicative of a video picture selected from [a] said plurality of video pictures recorded as continuous motion images by said video camera in a memory of said video printer.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments clarify the nature of Applicants' invention. The amendments were made to bring the claims into compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

By the Office Action, the Patent Office rejected pending claims 1, 3, and 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 4,937,676 issued to Finelli et al. in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,621,492 issued to Beveridge et al. Further, the Patent Office rejected claims 3, 5-6, and 7 in view of Finelli. Finally, the Patent Office rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Finelli et al. in view of Beveridge et al. and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,561,462 issued to Nagano et al., and claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Finelli et al. in view of Beveridge et al. and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 4,935,763 issued to Itoh et al.

A. Summary of Applicants' Invention.

Applicants' invention relates to a video printer for printing as a hard copy a video picture selected from a plurality of video pictures recorded as continuous motion images by a video camera.

B. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph.

Claims 4 and 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for lack of an antecedent basis for several claimed elements. Applicants have amended claims 4 and 5, bringing them into compliance with 35 U.S. C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants, thus, respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

B. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

1. Rejection of Claims 1, 3, and 5-7.

Claims 1, 3, and 5-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Finelli et al. in view of Beveridge et al. Finelli et al. relate to a readily portable electronic imaging system for use in the field and, more particularly, to an electronic imaging system comprising both a camera and printer separately housed and readily connectable to an electronic image storage device (col. 1, lines 7-13). Unlike the continuous motion video recording device defined by the pending claims, Finelli et al. disclose a portable handheld camera used for taking still pictures (*see* col. 1, lines 16-26).

Beveridge et al. appear to disclose distributed photographic systems for taking self portraits which are user actuated to capture an image when the user strikes a desired pose (col. 1, lines 7-9). For example Beveridge et al. disclose that

[u]pon choosing an image, the user 8 signals through the user interface 18 that an image is acceptable by hitting a print button. That action causes a strobe light 20 to flash and the next subsequent image out of the video camera 14 to be captured by a frame grabber 22. The frame grabber 22 freezes the image and sends the frozen image, an electronic still image, to a remote printer 32 in the image rendering system 30.

(col. 3, lines 53-60) (emphasis added).

Beveridge et al. further teach that in using the disclosed photographic systems [a] sonar ranging system measures a distance to the user 8 and gives an indication of

whether the distance is correct, too far, or too close. The user 8 then has an opportunity again through the interface 18 to alter the measured distance by pressing UP 68 and DOWN 66 buttons to zoom the video camera 14 in or out to enhance the ultimate image.

Upon completion, the user then poses, adjust himself or herself appropriately, and when ready indicates so by pressing a freeze button 67 on the user interface 18. A countdown display is then indicated on the monitor showing the user 8 when the exact picture taking moment will be. This can range from instantaneously up to three seconds.

(col. 4, lines 29-41). From the foregoing excerpts, it appears that Beveridge et al.

disclose a sophisticated method of taking a still picture image, while permitting the user to "preview" a desired pose prior to the actual taking of the picture. Beveridge et al., like Finelli et al., do not suggest or teach printing a video picture recorded as continuous motion images by a video camera recorded. Further, Beveridge et al. do not teach or suggest photographic systems other than those used to take self-portraits. In view of the foregoing, Applicants' invention, as a whole, would not have been obvious from the teachings of Finelli et al. and Beveridge et al. when read singly or in combination.

2. Rejection of Claims 2 and 4.

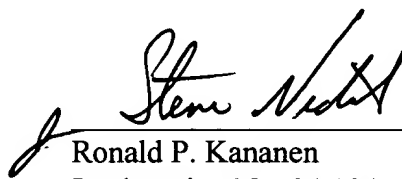
Claims 2 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable under Finelli et al. in view of Beveridge et al. and further in view of Nagano et al. and Itoh et al., respectively. In view of the foregoing arguments, Nagano et al. and Itoh et al. each and collectively fail to cure the above-identified defects of Finelli et al. and Beveridge et al. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of these rejections.

CONCLUSION

The cited references do not in combination or alone teach or suggest as a whole Applicants' invention. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the claims as amended. If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

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